

Customer No.: 31561
Docket No.: 21399-US-PA
Application No.: 10/826,176

To the Drawings

Please amend FIG. 1 by changing the objects being pointed by the numerals 21 and 22.

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REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

Claims 1-20 are rejected. Specifically, claims 2 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pommer et al. (U. S. Pub. 2003/0201462; hereinafter Pommer). Applicants have amended claims 1 and 8-9, and canceled claims 2, 5-7 and 10-20. After entry of amendments, claims 1, 3-4 and 8-9 remain pending in the present application, and reconsideration of those claims is respectfully requested.

About Amendment

In responding to the Office Action on 11/14/2006, Applicants respectfully state that the amendments are still within the same species. In the amendments, the diver IC, the circuit board, and the cover are not necessary in general features of the present invention, and therefore are recited.

The first set alignment keys 17 and the second set of alignment keys 23 are in the original claim 1 under the same elected species.

The guide rods and recess are also originally recited in claim 8 and 9 under the same elected species.

Therefore, it is believed that the amendments do not exceed the elected species. The response with amendments should be entered.

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Discussion of Claim Rejections under 35 USC 103

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pommer. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections for at least the reasons set forth below.

1. In the present invention, as for example shown in FIG. 1, the substrate 11 has the first set of alignment key 17. The optical active component 20 itself has the second set of alignment key 23 too. The alignment keys are particularly used to align the optical active component 20, during the assembling process. In other words, the optical active component 20 is separated structure from the substrate before being assembled. *The present invention does not need the complex packaging process to packaging the optical active component to the substrate.*

Further, as shown in FIG. 5, the guide rods 18 protrudes from the substrate 11, so as to align the substrate 11 to an external connection object, such as the connection set 191 and the fiber connector 192.

2. In re Pommer, Pommer discloses a pair of guide rods 72 that protrudes from the mounting block 70, *but not from the substrate 17*, to align the support member 35, substrate 17, and optical connector 36 (see Fig. 5A; Fig. 5E; [0140]; [0141]; [0223]; [0224]; [0316])). That is to say that all the pinned elements are aligned to the mounting block 70. Pommer did not disclose that a pair of guide rods 18 protrudes from substrate 11, as recited in claim 21, so as to align the substrate 11 with respect to the fiber connector 192.

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3. Further, Pommer does not disclose the alignment keys to align the source arrays with respect to the lens arrays, as recited in claim 21. In the present invention, the optical active component 20 has a first set of multiple alignment keys 23. The substrate 11 has a second set of multiple alignment keys 17 coupling to the first multiple alignment keys 23. The source arrays 22 are aligned with respect to the lens arrays 12 by the coupling of the first and the second multiple alignment keys 17, 23.

4. It should be noted that the OE die 19 is flip-chipped to the surface of the substrate (para [0273]; Fig. 16). This is a complicate packaging process. Even further, the electronic circuit 257 and the conductive trace 256 are connected to the OE device by the flip-chip bond process. Therefore, Pommer does not disclose alignment key on optical active component 22 (considered as OE by the Office Action) so as to individually align the optical active component 22 to the substrate 11, as shown in FIG 1 of the present invention.

5. For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 21 patently defines over the prior art references, and should be allowed. For at least the same reasons, dependent claims 22-25 patently define over the prior art references as well.

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CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all the pending claims 1, 3, 4, 8, 9 of the invention patently define over the prior art and are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Date :

Dec. 13, 2006

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